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Roman Society from Nero to Marcus Aurelius. By SAMUEL DILL. New York: Macmillan, 1905. Pp. xxii + 639. \$2.50.

In a series of brilliant chapters Mr. Dill has given us a graphic picture of the more important elements in Roman society in the Antonine age. Some of the chapter heads are: "The Aristocracy under the Terror," "The World of the Satirist," "The Society of the Freedmen," "The Circle of the Younger Pliny," "Municipal Life," "The Colleges and Plebeian Life," "The Philosophic Director," "Superstition," "Isis and Serapis," and "The Religion of Mithra." In the trend of Seneca's philosophical teaching, in the lives of many of the Cynic philosophers, in Neoplatonism, in the various forms of superstition, and in the vogue of the cults of Isis and Mithra, Dill sees the signs of a struggle for a higher spiritual life. The systematic development of this idea, that the age was marked to an unusual degree by a passion for spiritual reform, gives an unexpected unity to a book that at first sight seems to be, like many of its predecessors in this field, a collection of essays on widely diverse topics. Dill knows his Latin authors well, interprets them acutely, and where their records fail, has drawn extensively on the inscriptions. His conclusions are, in the main, sound, and his presentation has the additional merit of a style of unusual effectiveness.

That a book with so wide a range of subjects should here and there show inaccuracies, slips, and occasionally even a failure to grasp the significance of some of the social conditions of the period, is not surprising. For example, many readers will be disappointed in the treatment of the colleges. Of the attitude of the government toward the formation of these organizations the author does, it is true, speak from time to time; but of the relations which existed between the municipalities and the colleges on the one hand, and between the central administration and the colleges on the other, almost nothing is said. That many of the colleges were burial or religious societies, that in all of them the social tie that united the members was a strong and enduring one, that in a considerable number of the clubs the protection of a particular trade was a motive of the organization—this is the sum total of the impressions that the chapter on this subject leaves. Of the important part that many of these organizations played in the municipal and even in the imperial administrative system, and of the privileges which they enjoyed as a return for their services, no mention is made. Indeed, Dill's view of the subject is sadly antiquated. Apart from his own study of the inscriptions and texts, it seems to be based on nothing more recent than Mommsen's treatise *De collegiis* and Gaston Boissier's *La religion romaine*. Walzing's monumental work, *Les corporations romaines*, is apparently unknown to him.

There are a few inaccurate statements which should be corrected in a second edition. Julius Caesar's attitude toward Laberius' appearance on the stage was not one of encouragement (p. 73), but of coercion (cf. Macrob. *Sat.* ii. 7). The title of the tutor was not *litteratus* (p. 96), but *litterator*. The *quinque tabernae* to which Juvenal refers in i. 104 were probably five banking-houses in the Forum (cf. Liv. xxvi. 27); they were certainly not taverns (p. 104). The capacity of the Colosseum was not 87,000 (p. 235), but, as Hülsen has shown in *Bull. Com.* 1894, pp. 312-24, about 45,000.

On the whole, however, the book is a remarkable one, and deserves the attention of all who are interested in this side of Roman life.

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Griechische Papyri medizinischen und naturwissenschaftlichen Inhalts. Bearbeitet von K. KALBFLEISCH und H. SCHÖNE. Mit 9 Lichtdrucktafeln. Berliner Klassikertexte, herausgegeben von der Generalverwaltung der kgl. Museen zu Berlin, Heft III. Berlin: Weidmann, 1905. Pp. 40. M. 5.

The third part of the Berlin Classical Texts contains nine rather fragmentary papyri and one parchment, dealing with medical and kindred subjects. These belong for the most part to the first and second centuries after Christ. A few of them have already been published, but are reprinted in connection with the unpublished pieces of similar character. The most considerable of these fragments preserve parts of the letters of the Pseudo-Hippocrates and of a physiological (neurological?) work of the Alexandrian period. The fragments of Pseudo-Hippocrates are the only texts of those published that are extant in other manuscripts. Dr. Wilhelm Schubart has assisted in the publication of the texts, by comparing the editors' copies with the originals at Berlin. There are full indices, and good facsimiles of all the papyri included in the part are appended, thus greatly increasing the palaeographical value of the publication. A consecutive numbering of the texts would have facilitated reference to them, the museum designations (P. 9764, etc.) being too cumbersome for the purpose, even if the papyri were arranged in the order of those numbers, as they are not. The Berlin literary papyri should receive publication numbers, just as the Berlin *Urkunden* do.

American students of papyri will welcome these Berlin texts, and regret afresh the dearth of such material in this country.

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